

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): A child safety lock for door lock mechanisms having lever door handles of a type having a rotatable shaft extending from a door and a lever extending radially from the ~~hand~~rotatable shaft, the child safety lock comprising;

a lever gripstop element engaging a portion of the lever to limit free motion of the lever as would be necessary to open the door lock mechanism;

a fulcrum element attached to the lever gripstop to be positioned proximate to the shaft as a fulcrum about the shaft;

at least one armconnecting element having a first end attached to the fulcrum element and extending radially therefrom to a second end sized to interfit with a stationary door structure;

whereby a force of rotation of the lever in an unlocking direction may be conducted by the lever gripstop through the fulcrum element against the shaft and through the armconnecting element to the stationary door structure.

2. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 1 wherein the armconnecting element is sized so that the second end interfits against a door jam adjacent to the door handle when the door is closed.

3. (original): The child safety lock of claim 1 wherein the fulcrum element is a collar surrounding the shaft.

4. (original): The child safety lock of claim 3 wherein the collar includes at least a first and second collar portion openable for insertion of the shaft within the collar.

5. (original): The child safety lock of claim 4 wherein the collar includes at least one latch for releasably retaining the collar closed about the shaft after the shaft is inserted into the collar.

6. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim ~~13~~ wherein the collar includes space filling elements allowing an opening of the collar to conform to shafts of different diameter.

7. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 6 wherein the space filling elements are spring fingers extending inward from an inner edge of the collar to flexibly press against ~~the an~~ outer circumference of the shaft.

8. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 1 wherein the ~~arm~~connecting element includes a release allowing it to be displaced from interfitting with a stationary door structure for rotation of the lever.

9. (original): The child safety lock of claim 8 wherein an operator of the release extends from an upper side of the safety lock when the safety lock is on the door.

10. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 8 wherein the connecting element is an arm and includes a pivot and the release is a catch preventing pivoting of the arm except when the catch is released.

11. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 1 wherein the lever gripstop is a loop surrounding the lever.

12. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 1 wherein the lever gripstop is asymmetric about a plane perpendicular to an axis of the shaft and wherein the lever gripstop may be rotated about a radial axis for use with lever handles on either side of a door.

13. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 1 including a second armconnecting element extending radially from the fulcrum element to a second end sized to interfit with a stationary door structure.

14. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 13 wherein the ~~first~~ armconnecting element includes a release allowing it to be displaced from interfitting with a stationary door structure for rotation of the lever upward only.

15. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 1 wherein the lever grip, fulcrum element, and ~~arm~~connecting element are polymer materials.

16. (currently amended): The child safety lock of claim 1 wherein ~~arms~~ haveconnecting element has feet portions that ride against front surface of door.

17. (new): A child safety lock for door lock mechanisms having lever door handles of a type having a rotatable shaft extending from a door and a lever extending radially from the rotatable shaft, the child safety lock comprising;
a lever stop element engaging a portion of the lever;
a releasable catch;
a collar assembly attachable about the shaft of the lever door handle and communicating with the lever stop element through the releasable catch and with stationary door structure so that a force of rotation of the lever in an unlocking direction may be conducted by the lever stop to the collar element to the stationary door structure when the catch is in an engaged state and so that a force of rotation of the lever in an unlocking direction may freely move the lever stop when the catch is in a disengaged state.

18. (new): The child safety lock of claim 17 wherein the collar includes space filling elements allowing an opening of the collar to conform to shafts of different diameter.